

MADERA COUNTY

AGRICULTURAL AND STANDARDS INSPECTOR I AGRICULTURAL AND STANDARDS INSPECTOR II AGRICULTURAL AND STANDARDS INSPECTOR III

DEFINITION

Under general supervision (Agricultural and Standards Inspector I) or direction (Agricultural and Standards Inspector II/III), to make inspections and enforce provisions of the California Code of Regulations, California Food and Agricultural Code, and the California Business and Professions Code relating to pest control and the inspection, standardization, and quarantine of agricultural products; to make inspections, enforce standards, and test weighing and measuring devices and the weights, volumes, and quality of packaged goods and commodities; to perform specialized assignments; to provide work direction and training for other staff; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Agricultural and Standards Inspector I

Exercises no supervision.

Agricultural and Standards Inspector II

May exercise technical and functional supervision over lower level staff.

Agricultural and Standards Inspector III

May exercise technical and functional supervision over lower level staff.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Agricultural and Standards Inspector I--This is the entry and training level in the Agricultural and Standards Inspector class series. Positions at this level usually perform most of the duties required of the positions at the Agricultural and Standards Inspector II level, but are not expected to function at the same skill level and usually exercise less independent discretion and judgment in matters related to work procedures and methods. Incumbents should be training for work in all areas of inspection. Work is usually supervised while in progress and fits an established structure or pattern. Exceptions or changes in procedures are explained in detail as they arise. Since this class is often used as a training class, employees may have only limited or no directly related work experience.

Agricultural and Standards Inspector II—This is the journey level in the Agricultural and Standards Inspector class series. Positions at this level are distinguished from the Agricultural and Standards Inspector I level by the performance of the full range of duties as assigned, working independently and exercising judgment and initiative. Incumbents are expected to work in at least two fields of agricultural and weights and measures inspection with minimum guidance and supervision. Positions at this level receive only occasional instruction or assistance as new or unusual situations arise, and are fully aware of the operating procedures and policies of the work unit. Positions in this class series are flexibly staffed and positions at the Agricultural and Standards Inspector II level are normally filled by advancement from the Agricultural and Standards Inspector I level. When filled from the outside, the employee is required to have prior related experience which allows the employee to meet the qualification standards for the Agricultural and Standards Inspector II level.

Agricultural and Standards Inspector III--This class level in the Agricultural and Standards Inspector class series recognizes positions which perform the full range of duties as assigned and possess five licenses in the fields of agricultural and weights and measures inspection work.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Inspects fruits, nuts, vegetables, honey, eggs, or other agricultural commodities in markets, packing houses, and storage areas for compliance with regulations related to standards, grades, and spray residues; issues certificates of inspection; may order reconditioning or destruction of produce deemed to be below minimum standards; inspects plants and trees in nurseries and those being transported by common carrier for evidence of disease, pests, or noxious weed seeds; inspects transported agricultural commodities to ensure that they are free from injurious insects or plant disease; issues permits and may supervise the application of toxic materials to crops; mixes and sells poisons for weed and pest control; inspects apiaries; examines fields, orchards, roadways, and cultivated areas to determine the location and extent of rodent, weed, bird, insect, predator, and plant disease infestations; assists with the eradication and control of plants, weeds, rodents, birds, and other pests; enforces laws related to preventing the introduction and spread of pests; may certify or specify treatment of agricultural products as a condition of movement or shipment; inspects seeds, seed shipments, and cleaning devices for compliance with standardization requirements; may operate trucks, spray rigs, and other equipment; inspects pesticide equipment and storage; inspects, tests, and seals commercial weighing and measuring devices, petroleum product dispensing meters, and a variety of electrical meters; weighs, measures, and counts or weighs the contents of packaged commodities to verify the accuracy of labels; inspects and verifies weighmaster licenses and pertinent certificates; collects product samples for testing to ensure stated quantities; investigates complaints of improper measures, weights, and counts; gathers evidence and other information to support the prosecution of violators; prepares reports and records of inspections and tests conducted; gathers information for annual crop reports; audits records of pest control advisors, operators, growers, and dealers; inspects gasoline distributors for compliance with air pollution regulations; examines fields, orchards, roadways, and cultivated areas to determine location and extent of endangered species; may have specialized job assignments such as the development of data bases, hardware maintenance, and computer software applications; may serve on interagency groups and committees; may be responsible for providing work direction and training for other staff.

OTHER JOB RELATED DUTIES

Performs related duties and responsibilities as assigned.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Agricultural and Standards Inspector I

Knowledge of:

- Basic knowledge of pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations related to the inspection, standardization, and quarantine of agriculture products.
- Basic knowledge of pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations related to the inspection and standardization of weights and measures, net containers, and public weighmasters.

Skill to:

Operate modern office equipment including computer equipment.
Operate a motor vehicle safely.

Ability to:

Learn proper inspection methods and procedures.
Learn basic statistical testing techniques.
Learn law enforcement powers, procedures, and policies of the Office of Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures.
Assist with the interpretation and enforcement of agriculture standards, laws, and regulations and weights and measures laws, standards, and regulations.
Prepare and maintain records and reports.
Assist with gathering and maintaining information concerning County crops.
Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
Establish, maintain, and foster positive and harmonious working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Experience and Training Guidelines:

Any combination equivalent to experience and training that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities would be:

Experience:

No experience is required.

Training:

Equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in biological or agricultural science or a related field.

License or Certificate:

Possession of the minimum qualifications for admittance to the County Agricultural Inspector examination administered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Possession of, or ability to obtain within one year of employment, a valid state Inspection License in at least one of the eight fields of agricultural and weights and measures inspection work.

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid driver's license, issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Special Requirements:

Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, kneel, crouch, stoop, squat, crawl, twist, climb, and lift 50 lbs.; exposure to cold, heat, noise, outdoors, chemicals, explosive materials, mechanical hazards, and electrical hazards; ability to travel to different sites and locations.

Agricultural and Standards Inspector II

In addition to the qualifications for an Agricultural and Standards Inspector I:

Knowledge of:

Pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations related to the inspection, standardization, and quarantine of agriculture products.

Pertinent State and Federal laws and regulations related to the inspection and standardization of weights and measures, net containers, and public weighmasters.

Law enforcement powers, procedures, and policies of the Office of Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Proper inspection methods and procedures.

Methods of treating and controlling plant pests and diseases.

Basic statistical testing techniques.

Principles of training.

Ability to:

Interpret and enforce agriculture standards, laws, and regulations and weights and measures laws, standards, and regulations.

Impartially investigate complaints of short weighs, deception, and fraud.

Provide training for other staff.

Gather and maintain information concerning County crops.

Experience and Training Guidelines:

Any combination equivalent to experience and training that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities would be:

Experience:

One year of technical agricultural inspection and/or weights and measures enforcement work.

Training:

Equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in biological or agricultural science or a related field.

License or Certificate:

Possession of a valid State inspection license in at least two of the eight fields of agricultural and weights and measures inspection work.

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid driver's license, issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Special Requirements:

Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, kneel, crouch, stoop, squat, crawl, twist, climb, and lift 50 lbs.; exposure to cold, heat, noise, outdoors, chemicals, explosive materials, mechanical hazards, and electrical hazards; ability to travel to different sites and locations.

Agricultural and Standards Inspector III

In addition to the qualifications for an Agricultural and Standards Inspector II:

Knowledge of:

Methods and procedures for directing the work assignments and training other staff.

Ability to:

Provide work direction and train other staff.

Perform specialized work assignments.

Experience and Training Guidelines:

Any combination equivalent to experience and training that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities would be:

Experience:

Two years of technical agricultural inspection and/or weights and measures enforcement work.

Training:

Equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in biological or agricultural science or a related field.

License or Certificate:

Possession of a valid State inspection license in at least five of the eight fields of agricultural and weights and measures inspection work.

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid driver's license, issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Special Requirements:

Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, kneel, crouch, stoop, squat, crawl, twist, climb, and lift 50 lbs.; exposure to cold, heat, noise, outdoors, chemicals, explosive materials, mechanical hazards, and electrical hazards; ability to travel to different sites and locations.

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